

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 09/244,419
Attorney Docket No. Q53219

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an image identifying server for identifying the species of the operation document image to retrieve the species stored in the workflow control table in response to the identified species, to automatically recognize the corresponding destination and operation, and to transmit a recognized result together with the operation document image to the network.

2. (Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising an input device directly coupled to the image identifying server to supply an operation document as the operation document image into the image identifying server.

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6. (Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the image identifying server identifies the species of the operation document image by using character recognition of an identification code representative of the species when the identification code is included in the operation document image.

7. (Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the image identifying server identifies the species of the operation document image by recognizing an image pattern particular to the operation document image when an identification code which stands for the species is not included in the operation document image.

SBC1 > 11. (Amended) An image workflow system for use in transferring, through a network, an operation document image (or a work sheet image) extracted from an operation document which is featured by a species, a destination, and operation to be handled to the operation document, comprising:

23 a workflow control table which stores the species, the destination, and the operation assigned to each operation document; and

an image identifying server for identifying the species of the operation document from the operation document image to retrieve the species stored in the workflow control table in response to the identified species, to automatically recognize the corresponding destination and operation, and to transmit a recognized result to the network,

wherein the image identifying server observes efficiency of a plurality of terminals and selects one of the terminals which have the lowest efficiency as the destination terminal when the plurality of terminals are associated with the single identification species in the workflow control table.

12. (Amended) A method of managing image workflow for transferring, through a network, an operation document image which is featured by a species, a destination, and operation to be handled to the operation document image, the method comprising the steps of:

storing in advance, the species, the destination, and the operation assigned to each operation document image; and

BB identifying the species of the operation document image to retrieve the stored species in response to the identified species, to automatically recognize the corresponding destination and operation, and to transmit a recognized result together with the operation document image to the network.

13. (Amended) A computer readable medium which stores a program operable for managing image workflow for transferring, through a network, an operation document image which is featured by a species, a destination, and operation to be handled to the operation document image, the method comprising the steps of:

storing in advance, the species, the destination, and the operation assigned to each operation document image; and

identifying the species of the operation document image to retrieve the stored species in response to the identified species, to automatically recognize the corresponding destination and operation, and to transmit a recognized result together with the operation document image to the network.